



The CAPITOL HILL MONITOR

January 1993

AN INAUGURAL UPDATE

The special events nets for the Presidential Inauguration underwent a test exercise during the week of 7 December 1992. The command center for the operation, which includes elements from all the services, has been established at buildings 158 and 159 in the Southeast Federal Center (AKA west end of the Navy Yard). Nets identified during the exercise are listed below. Several of these frequencies are normally assigned to the 3rd Infantry (Old Guard), and continue to be used by them on low power (e.g., 148.55).

Most of these nets seem to be used only in the repeater mode, but some, if not all, have a simplex capability. All use a CTCSS tone of 156.7 Hz. Additionally, they use control frequencies for the repeaters rather than the more traditional input. 142.4 is also used by the Fort Myer Military Police (Base ID: "300"), but with a CTCSS tone of 136.5 Hz. Check the Frequency Forum computer BBS for any last minute frequency updates.

Military District of Washington

138.3250 (138.3250) Command Net
142.4000 (138.3500) Rapid Trans Net 2
142.4750 (140.1500) Special Trans Net (Sedans)
143.3750 (139.5500) Parade Control Net
143.8750 (138.9000) Capitol Control Net
148.3750 (139.2250) Special Trans Net (Buses)
148.5500 (139.2500) Executive Trans (VIP Taxi)
148.8750 (?00.000?) Route Control Net
149.1250 (139.2750) Logistics Net
149.2750 (139.4250) Medical Net
149.8750 (141.0500) Rapid Trans Net 1

A word of caution. There are many different type radios being used on these nets. References to "mode 1, channel 3" by one group and "mode 1, channel 5" by another, actually may refer to the same net (i.e., frequency). The same applies when just channel numbers are used. Most often, these type references are

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restricted to communications personnel working on the systems. The operators, including the primary control center, will almost always refer to them by the name listed.

Presidential Inaugural Schedule of Events (tentative)

For details regarding Inaugural events or free ticket information call 1-800-INAUG93 (tape recording) or 202-252-2300. The following "Event Sites" are in addition to those which appeared in the December CHM "Special Inauguration Issue" newsletter. Also try the "common low-power and itinerant allocations" (listed in the last issue) while at any Inaugural event. If you didn't get December newsletter, call Mike at 703-902-6241

EVENTS:

Sunday, January 17

Morning service in Charlottesville
Bus trip from Monticello to the District
"America's Reunion on the Mall"

"A Call for Reunion" at the Lincoln Memorial

Monday, January 18

Diplomatic reception at Georgetown University
American Citizen's Lunch
Inaugural dinners

"The American Gala" at the Capital Centre

Tuesday, January 19

Governor's Luncheon at the Library of Congress
"Salute to Children" at the Kennedy Center
"Salute to Youth" at the Kennedy Center

Presidential Gala at the Capital Centre

Wednesday, January 20

Prayer service

The Bush family receives the Clintons at the White House

Swearing-in ceremony at the Capitol

Congressional luncheon in Statuary Hall

Parade: US Capitol to the White House

Inaugural Balls

Thursday, January 21

"A Presidential Open House"

ADDITIONAL SITE FREQUENCIES:

Capital Centre

151.895, 461.675, 464.775 and 469.5

Georgetown University Security

463.725

Kennedy Center

411.825

Library of Congress Security

408.125

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INSIDE THE WASHINGTON AND BALTIMORE TRANSIT SYSTEMS

by Alan Henney

For the first time on March 29, 1976, Washington's Metrorail provided revenue service (with fares as low as 40 cents). They used a simple four-channel radio configuration. Since that day, not only have fares changed, but so have the radios. Motorola Saber radios continue to replace the older radios still in use by Metrorail personnel. All Metrorail frequencies operate with no CTCSS with the exception of the input (160.725) to the 161.385 repeater which uses a CTCSS of 179.9 Hz.

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA)

Metrorail

160.2600 s F1: Ops 1 Red Line (entire line)

160.3800 s F2: Ops 2 Blue Line (ANC to Addison Rd) and Orange Line (entire line)

160.6200 s F3: Ops 3 Blue Line (Franconia to ANC) Green Line (entire line) Yellow Line (entire line)

161.0250 s F4: Maintenance & Paging

161.2350 s F5: Yard Operations 1 (Primary)

160.6050 s F6: Yard Operations 2 (Alternate)

161.4150 s F7: Start-up Operations Control Net

161.3850 s F8: Transit Police & Security "TPAS-2"

161.3850 r F9: Transit Police/Security "TPAS-1"

160.7250 i Input to 161.385 (F9)

WMATA police, also known as TPAS (Transit Police and Security), protect Metrorail and Metrobuses. They communicate using 161.385. The Metrorail money train operates on 161.415 in the early morning hours. With the exception of the Start-up channel, and the two yard channels, all others are, at some point, plugged into the tunnels through the "leaky-coax" antenna system. As a result, the two yard channels, and the Start-up channel are commonly used alternates between maintenance, or car equipment personnel throughout the system.

Besides the Metrorail channels, WMATA transmits selected public safety frequencies through the tunnel's "leaky-coax" antenna system. Public safety frequencies heard at various points in the tunnel include: 153.95, 154.13, 154.19, 453.825, 460.325, 463.175 and 494.8375.

WMATA holds licenses for 10, currently inactive, rail channels: 489.5125, 489.5375, 490.7625, 490.7875, 490.8375, 490.8625, 490.8875, 490.9125, 490.9375 and 490.9625. This system may eventually replace the aging 160 MHz radio system. Rumors indicate, however, that TPAS officers presently use these frequencies for surveillance activities. Currently, 490.9625 simulcasts the base side of 161.025 (probably to give the FCC the appearance that the system is active).

Brent Baker, our Newscan editor, says Metro and Bell Atlantic Mobile Systems are splitting the \$3 million cost of putting cellular phone system antennas and transmitters in 23 Metro stations by early 1993. According to a Fairfax Journal article, all seven underground Arlington County stations will be covered. "The technology of the new" Arlington County "emergency communications system," (presumably the 800-trunked system) "is similar to cellular technology" so the Arlington police and fire communications can be carried on the same equipment.

The article didn't mention DC, but since the 16 other stations in the initial plan are all in the District, perhaps it will include the new DC 800 MHz fire channels as well.

Metrorail Yard Locations:

Alexandria (Yellow Line)

Brentwood Road, NE (Red Line)

Greenbelt (Green Line)

New Carrollton (Orange Line)

Shady Grove (Red Line)

Silver Spring (Red Line)

West Falls Church (Orange Line)

Wheaton (Red Line)

Metro's 1,574 buses, including the 1,369 buses which are assigned every rush hour regardless of weather conditions, routinely log more than 52 million miles every year - that's the equivalent of 101 round trips to the moon! Unlike Metrorail, Metrobus communication is somewhat slower paced. Bus routes are numerous and most conversations regard maintaining proper route status. Dispatchers frequently disable Metrobus repeater channels - forcing scanner listeners to monitor the bus' conversation on the input (three MHz higher).

WMATA plans to spend over \$8 million to upgrade the Metrobus radio system over the next three years. Besides facilitating voice communication, the new radio system will transmit data on daily revenue and passenger counts. Frequencies presumably will remain the same.

Metrobus

496.4625 r F1: Telemetry
496.5875 r F2: Buses
496.5125 r F3: Buses
496.5375 r F4: Buses
496.5625 r F5: Buses
496.4875 r F6: Buses
496.6125 r F7: Supervisors
496.4375 r F8: Supervisors
496.3375 r F9: Buses

Metro Facilities

044.4800 s Facilities Maintenance
044.5600 s System Maintenance
152.8700 s Rail Service (Portables)
452.0750 r
452.6750 r
462.6250 r Snow Emergencies
462.7000 r Building Maintenance (600 Fifth St., NW)
463.3875 s
468.3875 s

WMATA Metrorail Color Codes (used by non-TPAS units)

Amber: Fire
Gray: Smoke
Lemon: Crowd Control
Purple: Jumper - Someone Hit with Train
Tan: Bomb Threat
White: Hostage Situation
Silver: Police Situation
Black: Collision or Derailment

TPAS Ten-Signal Code

10- 1 Unable to Copy
10- 2 Signal Good
10- 3 Emergency Transmissions Only *
10- 4 OK
10- 6 Busy Unless Urgent *
10- 7 Out of Service (E Lunch)
10- 8 In-Service
10- 9 Repeat
10-10 Fight
10-11 Animal Complaint
10-14 Juvenile Complaint
10-17 Public Ordinance Violations
10-19 Return to ____
10-20 Location
10-21 Call by Telephone
10-22 Disregard
10-23 Arrived on Scene
10-25 Report in Person

10-27 Driver's License Check
10-28 Vehicle Tag Check
10-29 Wanted Check (Vehicle or Person)
10-33 Emergency

10-36 Time Check
10-38 Traffic Stop
10-50 Traffic Accident
---PDO Property Damage Only
---PI Personal Injury
10-51 Request Crane
10-52 Ambulance Needed
10-56 Intoxicated Person
10-71 Check Officer's Welfare
10-74 Negative
10-75 Sensitive Information
10-76 En Route
10-77 Estimated Time of Arrival
10-78 Assistance Needed (Non-Emergency)
---(State Crowd Control, Traffic, etc.)
10-80 Chase in Progress
10-95 Prisoner / Subject in Custody
10-96 Mental Subject
10-97 Radio Check

* for use by Central Communications Unit only.

TPAS Signal List

7 Suspicious Person
8 Man with a Gun
9 Person Struck by Train
13 Police Officer in Trouble
20 Train Derailment
---PDO Property Damage Only
---PI Personal Injury
44 Bomb Threat
60 Assault in Progress
62 B & E (state whether in progress)
78 Alarm (Zone 10 only)
84 Hold-Up (state whether in progress)
85 Hostage
99 Wanted Person / Vehicle
---T Traffic; M Misdemeanor; F Felony

These are the TPAS (Transit Police & Security) codes. Metrobus personnel use different codes (can anyone get us a copy?). Full color Metrorail and Metrobus maps are available by calling 202-637-7000.

Mass Transit Administration (Baltimore)

The Mass Transit Administration, a state agency, provides bus, subway and light rail services in the Baltimore area. Besides the subway channels, the MTA transmits on 154.31, 453.2 and 453.3 (Baltimore fire and police channels) through the subway tunnel's antenna system. The beeping sound transmitted on the bus frequencies (494.3375, 494.4375, 494.6125 and 494.6375) indicates to other buses that a bus is presently communicating with the dispatcher. Radio codes used by the administration are loosely based on Baltimore City Police codes (send

Alan an SASE if you desire a copy of the Baltimore City Police codes). The administration uses 39.1 and 47.32 for coordination with MSP and SHA respectively.

039.1000 s [000.0] MSP (F1)
 047.3200 s [094.8] SHA (F1)
 044.4600 s [000.0] Mobility
 160.3950 s [203.5] F1: Subway (Road)
 161.4750 s [203.5] F2: Subway (Yard)
 161.0850 s [203.5] F3: Subway (Police)
 161.5650 s [203.5] F4: Subway (Maintenance)
 160.9050 s [000.0] F5: Light Rail
 --- (Timonium-Camden Yards)
 161.0100 s [000.0] F6: Light Rail
 494.3375 d [000.0] F1 (Bus F1)
 494.4375 d [000.0] F2 (Bus F2)
 494.6125 d [000.0] F3 (Bus F3)
 494.6375 d [000.0] F4 (Bus F4)
 494.7625 r [127.3] F5 (T Car F3): Police
 494.8125 d [000.0] F6 (T Car F4):
 --- Automatic Vehicular Locator (AVL DA)
 494.9625 r [127.3] F7 (T Car F1):
 --- Supervisors & Maintenance
 495.0375 d [000.0] F8 (T Car F2): AVL VO
 495.1625 r [127.3] F9 (T Car F4): Police
 495.5875 r [000.0] New allocation (most likely F10)

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SCANNING IN CECIL COUNTY, MD

by John Cereghin

Cecil County, named for Cecilius Calvert (Second Lord Baltimore and founder of the colony of Maryland), lies in the extreme northeast corner of Maryland. According to the 1990 Census, 71,347 residents live in Cecil County's 381 square miles.

County Government

039.4600 s Sheriff - unknown
 039.9000 s F2 Sheriff Alternate, County Gov't
 039.9400 s F1 Sheriff Dispatch
 046.1800 s F1 Fire Dispatch
 046.2600 s Fire - unknown
 046.4000 s F3 Fireground, EMS Tone Signaling
 046.5400 s F2 Fire Tone Signaling, Civil Defense
 122.8500 s Cecil County Airport, Elkton - Multicom
 123.0000 s Cecil County Airport, Elkton - Unicom
 154.8150 s Sheriff Vehicular Repeater
 453.1500 s Sheriff - County Detention Center
 462.9750 d EMS Med 10; Call 2 (medic dispatch)
 463.1000 d EMS Med 5; Union Hospital
 463.1750 d EMS Med 8; Rising Sun

Fire Stations

1 Cecilton
 2 Chesapeake City
 3 Elkton - Pulaski Highway
 4 North East
 5 Charlestown
 6 Perryville
 7 Port Deposit
 8 Rising Sun

11 Perry Point Veterans Hospital
 13 Elkton - Newark Road
 14 Kenmore

Municipal Government

037.1000 s North East City Gov't
 037.1800 s North East Police Tactical
 039.7400 s Rising Sun Police Tactical
 046.3000 s Singerly VFD Tactical, Elkton
 153.8300 s Port Deposit Fire Police
 154.8300 s F2 Elkton PD - Simulcasts 155.79
 155.4750 s F4 Elkton PD - NLEEF
 155.7150 s F3 Elkton PD, City Gov't
 155.7900 s F1 Elkton PD - Dispatch
 453.4500 s Elkton Housing Authority

MSP-North East dispatches the following municipal departments on 39.4: Chesapeake City, North East (43.35, 43.36, 43.81 and 43.83), Perryville (resident trooper), Port Deposit (43.35) and Rising Sun.

State Government

039.1000 s F1 MSP Statewide
 039.2600 s F2 MSP Perryville "M" (formerly 39.24)
 039.4000 s F12 MSP North East "F"
 039.8400 s MSP North East (future)
 047.1400 s F4 SHA Cecil County, Elkton Shop
 047.3200 s F1 SHA Statewide
 151.0400 - MSP Perryville "M" (repeats 39.24)
 151.3550 s F4 DNR Central Region Forests
 151.4150 s F5 DNR Central Region Parks
 155.7750 s District Court, Elkton
 156.0450 - MSP Perryville "M" (repeats 39.26)
 159.4500 r F3 DNR Statewide
 453.5750 r Susquehanna River Bridge

Federal Government

156.6500 s Army Corps of Engineers, C&D Canal
 --- (Marine Ch. 13)
 163.0000 s Army Corps of Engineers, C&D Canal
 163.4125 s Army Corps of Engineers
 163.4375 s Army Corps of Engineers
 164.3500 s Perry Point Veterans Hospital,
 --- Fire and Security

John also sends two pages of Cecil County business and utility frequencies (send Alan an SASE should you desire a copy).

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DON'T FORGET THE VISIT TO THE METRO POLICE COMMUNICATIONS CENTER - SEE LAST PAGE FOR DETAILS

HAPPY NEW YEAR

LOCAL ELECTRIC COMPANIES

Be prepared for those winter power outages with a spare battery pack, a flashlight, and the following frequencies courtesy of Allen Cole, Joe Buday and Arnold Miller.

Baltimore Gas & Electric

BG&E is currently procuring a trunked system.

037.7000 s Gas Division
047.8600 s Electric - Central District
---(Baltimore and southeast Baltimore County)
047.9600 s Electric - Southern District (South of Baltimore)
048.0800 s Storm Trouble
048.2200 s Electric - Northern District (North of Baltimore)
153.5750 s Electric Trouble & Storm (all districts)
153.6050 s Electric Trouble & Storm (all districts)
451.1000 r Commercial Division

BG&E currently holds licenses for two trunked systems. The first system has two conventional channels (852.8875 and 853.7625) and 10 trunked channels (855.1875, 855.3625, 855.4125, 855.6125, 855.6375, 856.2875, 857.2875, 858.2875, 859.2875 and 860.2875). A second system has seven conventional channels (935.9125, 935.9625, 936.4875, 936.9125, 936.9625, 937.0 and 937.4875) and five trunked channels (939.3875, 939.4, 939.4125, 939.425 and 939.4375).

Delmarva Power (lower Delmarva peninsula)

048.2400 s F1 Southern Division Offices
048.3000 s F2 Southern Division Areawide
048.2000 s F3 Southern Division Offices
048.4400 s F4 Southern Division Offices
048.1800 s F5 Southern Division Offices

PEPCO (all 192.8 Hz)

451.0250 r F1 Montgomery County
451.0500 r F2 District
451.0750 r F3 Prince George's County
451.1500 r F4 Areawide
451.1250 r F5 Areawide (formerly 451.175)
451.2500 r F6 Main Office

VEPCO - Northern Division (all 114.8 Hz)

451.1000 r Warrenton District
451.2250 r Woodbridge District
451.2750 r Fredericksburg District
451.3750 r Herndon District
451.4250 r System
451.4750 r Northern Division Common
451.5250 r Alexandria and Arlington District
451.5750 r Springfield District
451.6250 r Fairfax District
451.6750 r Leesburg District

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MYSTERY FREQUENCIES OF THE MONTH

158.91: Inside the Maryland beltway we receive an almost constant data carrier on this "mobile only" police allocation. Judging from the strong signal we receive (at times) it must originate from a high-power base station. The FCC database, however, indicates that all licensees on this frequency are authorized for mobiles only, with the exception of a fixed control station belonging to Franklin County, Va. Other licensees include Anne Arundel and Baltimore counties in Maryland, and Alexandria and Leesburg in Virginia. Please give 158.91 a try and let Alan know of your results.

935.975 and 939.45: Both of these conventional voice frequency pairs were recently licensed to the District government. A courier service, which makes most deliveries in the District, uses both frequencies. Does the District government operate a courier service? Or, did the District return these frequencies to the FCC for reissue?

* * *

NOTE, US SENATE PAGERS: Two "new" frequencies have been heard in use as Senate pagers: 406.675 and 406.8. Details are still sketchy.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Date Event Contact

Sat., Jan. 30 MPD Communications Division Tour Alan
1:00 p.m. 300 Indiana Ave, NW, Room 6090 301-270-2531

Next CHM Tour Details

The date for the MPD Communications Division tour is presently set for Saturday, January 30, 1993. In the event we must re-schedule (inclement weather or otherwise), plan to take the tour at the same time on the following Saturday. IMPORTANT: If you intend to attend, please call Alan (301-270-2531) several days before the tour to confirm the date and time. MPD's Communications Division is located at 300 Indiana Avenue, NW. Plan to meet our tour host, Dispatcher "John" Gales, at 1 p.m. in the vicinity of Room 6090.

Help us plan future meetings and tours!

Do you have any ideas for possible tour or meeting places? Please call our meeting coordinators (Ken Fowler and Mike Peyton) to share your ideas (phone numbers at end). Ken and Mike especially need suggestions now that most area libraries charge for the use of their meeting facilities. Any suggestions for alternate meeting places would be most helpful.

The Capitol Hill Monitor is the non-profit monthly newsletter of the Capitol Hill Monitors. The newsletter keeps scanner enthusiasts abreast of local meetings, frequency profiles and other topics of interest. Dues (which includes 12 issues) are \$8. Make checks payable to Alan Henney.

Please address all correspondence to Alan. We encourage readers to submit material and to write articles which relate to the hobby. Additionally, we welcome frequency and visitor requests, but please include a SASE.

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Meeting Coordinators:

Mike Peyton, Maryland Coordinator (703-902-6241)
Ken Fowler, Virginia Coordinator (703-385-2165)

Capitol Hill Monitor's Scanner/Shortwave Net:

Listen for the CHM net, hosted by Ken Fowler, at 7:30 p.m. on the first and third Monday of each month on 146.91 MHz.

Frequency Forum Computer Bulletin Board:

We encourage computer users to log onto Jack Anderson's Frequency Forum computer BBS at 703-207-9622 (8-N-1). Frequency Forum is the official electronic gathering place for readers of the Capitol Hill Monitor!

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